

Message Text

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TAGS: OVIP (ROBINSON, C.W.)

SUBJ: VISIT OF DEPSEC ROBINSON: BRIEFING PAPER: UNITED STATES
DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANT TO THE PHILIPPINES

1. IN DECEMBER, 1973, THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED THE TARGET OF AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS TO BE THE "POOR MAJORITY" IN THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. WITHIN THIS DEFINITION, CURRENT DEVELOPMENT PROBLEMS INCLUDE THE PRESSURES A RAPIDLY GROWING POPULATION IS PLACING IN THE PHILIPPINES UPON LIMITED AVAILABLE RESOURCES AND THE NEED TO RESTRUCTURE A TRADITIONAL AND DUALISTIC SOCIETY TO HASTEN ITS ADJUSTMENT TO TECHNOLOGICAL AND SOCIAL CHANGE. THESE PROBLEMS HAVE BEEN MANIFESTED IN LOW AGRICULTURAL YIELDS, WIDESPREAD MALNUTRITION, AND EXTENSIVE UNDER-EMPLOYMENT.

2. THE VARIOUS PROJECTS PRESENTLY BEING ASSISTED BY THE UNITED STATES, THROUGH TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS, CONCESSIONAL LOANS, AND PL-480 IMPORTS, ARE FOCUSED ON THESE PROBLEMS AS THEY IMPACT ON THE MAJORITY OF THE POPULATION LIVING IN RURAL AREAS. AID-ASSISTED PROJECTS INCLUDE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH, THE CONSTRUCTION OF IRRIGATION FACILITIES, RURAL ELECTRIFICATION, FAMILY PLANNING, NUTRITION, FARM-TO-MARKET ROADS, COMMUNITY WATER SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT, LAND REFORM, AND INTEGRATED AREA DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FOR THE BICOL RIVER BASIN. THE U.S. IS ALSO PROVIDING SUPPORT TO THE GOVERNMENT'S PROVINCIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE PROJECT, WHICH IS DESIGNED TO HELP

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LOCAL GOVERNMENTS ACQUIRE THE TRAINING AND SKILLS NEEDED

FOR IMPROVED PROJECT PLANNING, BUDGETING AND TAX ADMINISTRATION.

3. THE BASIC STRATEGY UNDERLYING U.S. ASSISTANCE IS TO HELP THE GOVERNMENT SUSTAIN AND IMPROVE THE WELL-BEING OF THE RURAL POPULATION, WHILE PROGRAMS TO LIMIT POPULATION GROWTH ARE BEING IMPLEMENTED. THE TABLE BELOW SUMMARIZES U.S. AID OVER THE PAST THREE YEARS.

UNITED STATES DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE
TO THE PHILIPPINES
FISCAL YEARS 1974, 1975 AND 1976
(IN MILLION DOLLARS)

I. DEVELOPMENT GRANTS	FY 74	FY 75	FY 76
FOOD AND NUTRITION	3,564	4,244	3,422
POPULATION PLANNING/HEALTH	6,722	4,995	4,800
EDUCATION & HUMAN RESOURCE DIV.	055	050	081
OTHER USAID FUNDED	583	349	516
OTHER AID/W FUNDED	-	-	538
TOTAL	10,924	9,638	9,357

II. DEVELOPMENT LOANS

FOOD AND NUTRITION	18,000	45,000	37,000
POPULATION PLANNING/HEALTH	15,000	-	10,000
TOTAL	33,000	45,000	47,000

III. PL 480

TITLE I	3,600	-	-
TITLE II	11,100	10,400	21,000
TOTAL	14,700	10,400	21,000

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IV. OPERATING EXPENSES	2,057	2,495	3,628
GRAND TOTAL	60,681	67,533	80,985

4. THE FOLLOWING ARE THE SPECIFIC DEVELOPMENT LOANS FOR FY 1976:

RURAL ELECTRIFICATION	\$20,000
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AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH	5,000
CONSULTING SERVICES	2,000
BICOL SECONDARY AND FEEDER ROADS	10,000
LOCAL WATER	10,000

TOTAL	\$47,000

5. DEPUTY SECRETARY'S VISIT WILL COINCIDE WITH THE SIGNATURE OF TWO OF THESE LOANS BY PRESIDENT MARCOS AND THE AMBASSADOR: THE \$20 MILLION LOAN FOR THE RURAL ELECTRIFICATION PROGRAM, AND THE \$10 MILLION LOAN FOR LOCAL WATER SUPPLY DEVELOPMENT.

6. COMPARED TO TOTAL REQUIREMENTS OF THE PHILIPPINES DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS AS DETERMINED BY THE WORLD BANK CHAIRED CONSULATIVE GROUP, U.S. DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE IS RELATIVELY MODEST. BUT COMBINED WITH THE AID OF OTHER DONORS, AND TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE GOP'S OWN RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS, THE RESOURCES ARE CONSIDERBLE AND SHOULD BE SUFFICIENT TO HAVE A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON THE ECONOMIC WELFARE OF THE RUAL POOR, THE PRIMARY GOAL OF THE U.S. ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

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